

2025 Annual Report – Black Creek Watershed 319 Grant

New Funding AWARDED for Cost-Share Implementation!

Now entering its third year of operation, the **Black Creek Watershed 319 Planning & Implementation grant**—which originally commenced in January 2023—continues to make significant strides toward improving local water quality. Following two and half years of intensive data collection and analysis, desktop modeling, and stakeholder input across the 106,857-acre watershed (spanning western Greene, Sullivan, and Knox counties), the comprehensive **Watershed Management Plan (WMP)** is nearing finalization and will be submitted to IDEM for review soon. Upon approval, the Black Creek Watershed project will officially transition into the highly anticipated **"Implementation" phase**, which will activate cost-share funding for on-the-ground conservation practices later in 2026.

Stakeholders interested in cost-share opportunities or joining our email notification list are encouraged to contact the Watershed Coordinator or the Greene County SWCD for more information. Please continue to check www.watershed-alliance.org for the latest project maps, approval updates, and implementation details.

We are also extremely pleased to announce the successful award of the **Black Creek Watershed Implementation II grant**, a competitively funded project valued at **\$600,000** (\$360,000 grant / \$240,000 match). This funding is scheduled to become available in January 2027, allowing for a seamless transition as our current BCW Planning & Implementation cycle concludes. Over its three-year duration, this second 319 grant will **execute \$200,000 in cost-share funding** for conservation practices such as cover crops, grassed waterways, planter upgrades that reduce tillage, prescribed livestock grazing, precision agriculture tools, stream buffers, and more. These practices are key to achieving the goals outlined in the Watershed Management Plan for reducing sediment and nutrient pollutant loads to improve regional water quality. This successful award was made possible by the partner organizations that provided letters of support in 2025, **demonstrating the regional commitment** required to secure these additional resources for the BCW project.

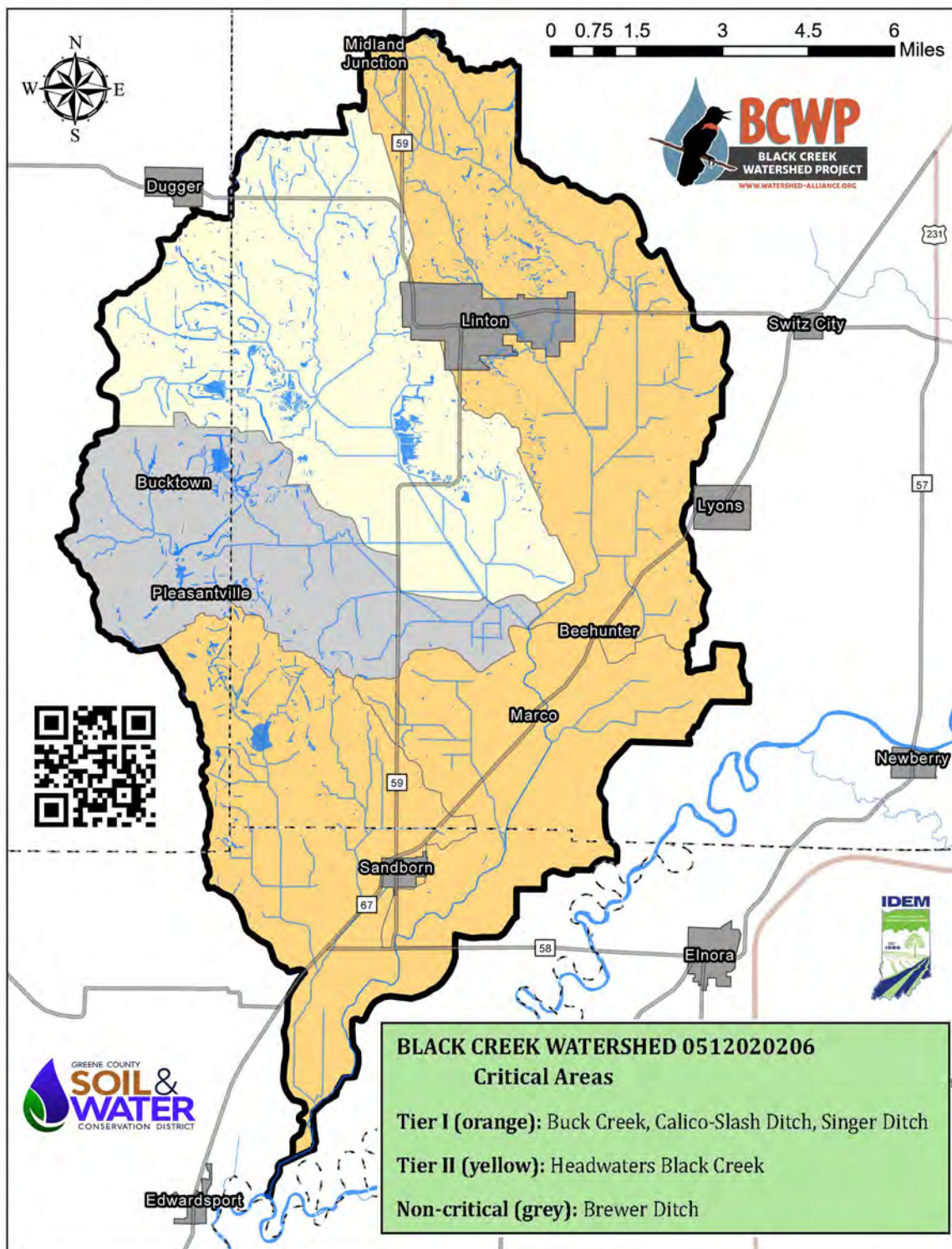
2025 Highlights/General Activity

- Administrative oversight of 319 grant deliverables and associated financial documentation/reporting
- Continued work on the Watershed Management Plan for Black Creek Watershed
- Submitted BCW Implementation II Grant application – **SELECTED FOR FUNDING!**
- Held 4 Black Creek Advisory Committee meetings (open to the public)
- BCW promotion at Marsh Madness and other community events
- Monthly project summary/updates to Greene Co. SWCD Board and partners Boards as necessary
- Coordinated with partners + NRCS/ISDA for project planning
- 319 grant promotion/materials at various community events, field days, and workshops
- Offered 319 training, consulting, and support to staff and partners, as requested
- Submitted Letters of Support for 319 initiatives in neighboring areas and Greene Co. SWCD CWI app.
- Ongoing updates: ~~Twitter~~ "X" @WCIWA and maintain website <http://www.watershed-alliance.org>



**Black Creek Watershed
Map QR Code**
Project Area (2023-2030)





**To learn more about the 319 Grant and local Watershed Projects:
Contact Laura Demarest, 319 Watershed Coordinator or the Greene Co. SWCD**

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**The Watershed Coordinator is an independent contractor (Watershed Alliance LLC), working primarily at home and in the field to provide services for multiple organizations. For convenience, please call or email to schedule an appointment. Thank you!*